

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12 and 14-27 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 7 and 18-21 have been amended and claims 22-27 have been added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 14, 15 and 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Humpleman et al. '479 in view of Wang et al.; and claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Humpleman et al. '479 in view of Wang et al. and Humpleman '419.

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 14, 15 and 18-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Humpleman et al. '479 in view of Wang et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 includes a combination of features and has been amended to clarify the appliance type identifier is a friendly name and the appliance inherent identifier is a universal domain number (UDN), and the friendly name and the UDN are linked together to identify different appliances. Independent claims 7 and 18-21 include similar features in a varying scope.

These features are supported at least by Fig. 5 and the corresponding description in the specification. For example, Fig. 5 illustrates the appliance type identifier is a friendly name (F.N.) and the appliance inherent identifier is a Universal Domain Number (UDN), and the friendly name (F.N.) and the UDN are linked together to identify different appliances (see also page 13, line 15 to page 14, line2).

On the contrary, Humpleman et al. '479 discloses connecting a client device to the home network, executing a software agent on the client device, selecting first and second home devices from the user interface being displayed on the device, and sending control and command data from the client device to the first and second home devices to cause the first and second home devices to communicate with each other to perform the service. Humpleman et al. '479 also discloses associating a LOGO.GIF image with a hypertext link to the homepage of the devices manufacturer. The Logo image disclosed in Humpleman et al.'479 is included in the device IITML file (see Figs. 6 and 7 and column 13, lines 25-67). However, it is respectfully noted Humpleman et al. '479 does not teach or suggest linking the friendly name in a universal domain number together to identify different appliances as claimed by the present invention.

Further, Wang discloses obtaining information from one or more of the first devices currently connected to the first network, in which the information includes device information comprising graphical user interface information for user interaction with that device. Wang also discloses generating a graphical user interface description based on the graphical user interface information, in which the graphical user interface description includes: (1) at least one reference associated with the device information of each of the one or more first devices, and (2) at least one reference associated with the services provided by the second network. Further, the graphical user interface description allows for displaying a graphical user interface to a user for controlling the devices that are currently connected to the first network and furnishing services of the second network, via the graphical user interface.

However, Wang also does not teach or suggest at least the recited feature of “linking the friendly name and the universal domain number together to identify different appliances”, as in the claimed invention.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claims 1, 7 and 18-21 and each of the claims depending therefrom patentably define over Humpleman et al. ‘479 in view of Wang et al.

Further, it is respectfully submitted the additional rejection noted in the Office Action has also been overcome as the claims rejected therein are dependent claims and the additional references by Humpleman et al. ‘419 also does not teach or suggest the features recited in the corresponding independent claims.

In addition, new claims 22-27 have been added to set forth the invention in a varying scope, and Applicants submit the new claims are supported by the originally-filed specification. For example, these claims illustrate the features shown in Fig. 5 and described in the corresponding description of the specification. It is respectfully submitted these dependent claims further define over the applied art.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons and in view of the above clarifying amendments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw all of the objections and rejections of record, and to provide an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters which need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact David A. Bilodeau (Registration No. 42,325) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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